

EXHIBIT # 13
DATE 02/17/15
HB 488

Northwest Montana Sanitarians' Association
106 4th Avenue East
Polson, Montana 59860



February 17, 2015

Alan Redfield, Chairman
House Agriculture Committee

RE: House Bill 478 – Implement Change in Montana's Food Retail Sales Law

Chairman Redfield:

I represent the Northwest Montana Sanitarians' Association and as group of Sanitarians have studied, attended hearings, suggested, recommended language that is now included in HB 478. The process has been long but you now see results with this bill.

House Bill 478 will clarify a growing desire to vend non-potentially hazardous foods without all requirement of a commercial kitchen. This bill will allow the Department of Public Health and Human Services to adopt rules that will facilitate the cottage food industry.

House Bill 478 also clarifies other licensing issues in current rule and is a step in providing more consistency between County Health Departments. Amendments are being offered that further clarify language in this bill to assist both industry and regulatory agencies.

I recommend that you pass House Bill 478 - Implement Change in Montana's Food Retail Sales Law.

Sincerely

Tim Read, R.S.

Tim Read, R.S.
President NWMSA